

18. A milling apparatus for preparing surfaces of two opposing vertebral bodies to accept a predetermined shape of an endoprosthesis comprising:

a rotary form cutter having a profile matching the predetermined shape of the endoprosthesis, the ^{rotary} rotating form cutter rotatable about a rotation axis;

a drive having proximal and distal ends, the drive operatively coupled to the rotary form cutter at the distal end to provide a force for rotating the rotary form cutter; and

an elongate housing containing the rotary form cutter and the drive, the elongate housing having a longitudinal axis in the elongate direction;

wherein the rotary form cutter cuts an imparted shape into the surfaces of the vertebral bodies that matches the predetermined shape of the endoprosthesis by rotation of the rotary form cutter.

B 19. The milling apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the profile of the rotary form cutter contained within the housing is configured to fit into a space between the two opposing vertebral bodies.

20. The milling apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the profile of the rotary form cutter contained within the housing is not more than approximately nine millimeters in height.

21. The milling apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the rotation axis of the rotary form cutter is transverse to the longitudinal axis of the elongate housing.